Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.42 JAN.
$1.50
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG™
SPAZ
HARJO

TYRANNY-- LIKE A DARK CLOUD IT SHADOWS A LAND, CAUSING THE VALIANT TO REBEL, CREATING WAR...

WAR-- ITS SOLDIERS ARE OFTEN CALLED *FREEDOM FIGHTERS*, WHO ARE SOMETIMES DRIVEN TO DESPERATE ACTS, EVEN AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE ATTEMPTED NEUTRALITY...

NEUTRALITY-- A POSITION IN WAR THE FABLED *FLOATING ISLAND* HAS BEEN UNABLE TO MAINTAIN AS ITS NATIVES LOOK FOR HOPE FROM ITS GUARDIAN...

GUARDIAN--THE ONE BEING THEY DEPEND ON TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE DESPERATE ACTS OF THOSE IN SEARCH OF *FREEDOM* AND THEIR WAR'S INVASION...

INVASION-- SOMETHING *KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA* NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONTEND WITH FROM THE LIKES OF *SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!*

ARE YOU CRAZY--BARGING IN HERE AND DEMANDING I FORK OVER MY *CHAOS EMERALD*?!

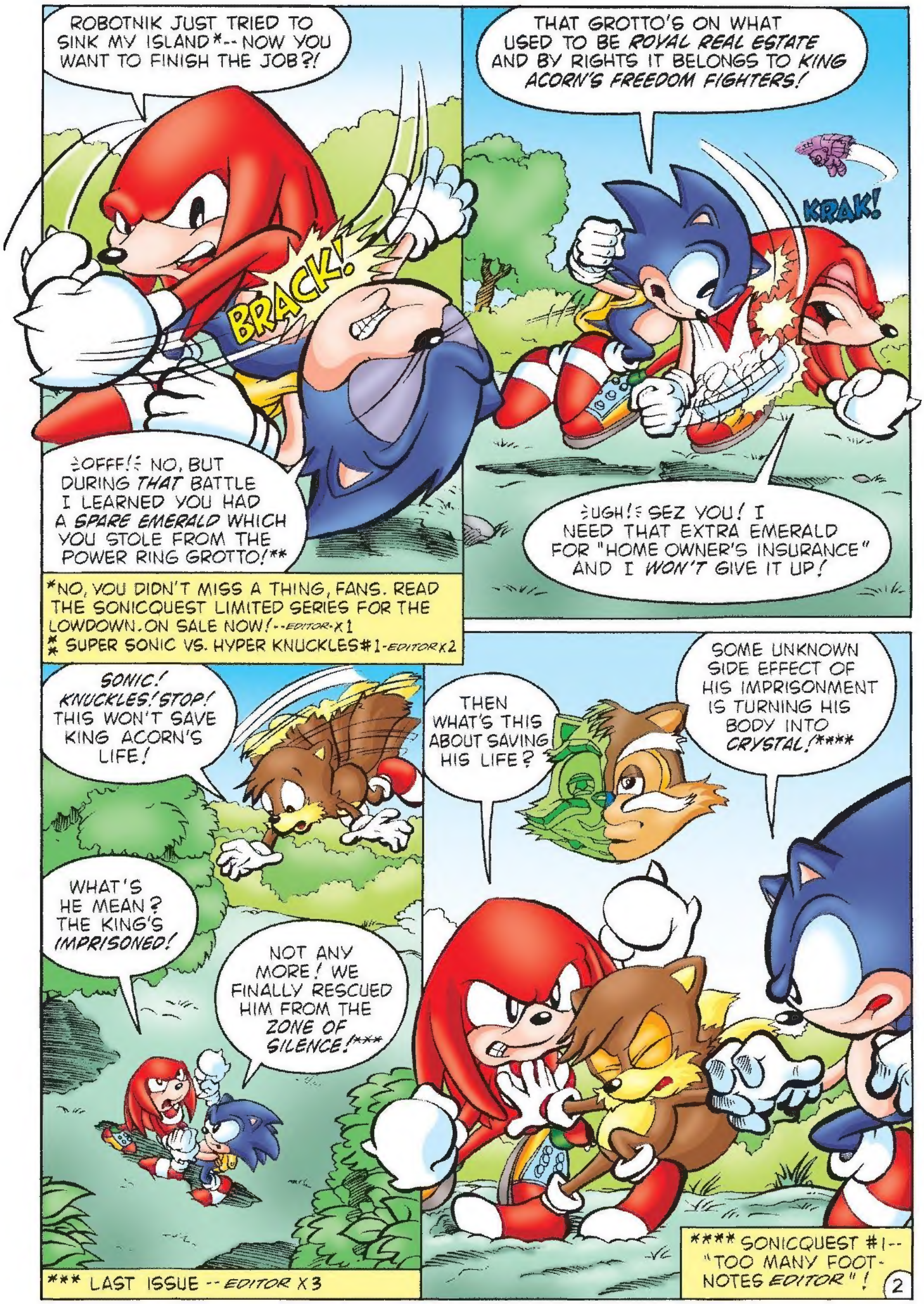
WITHOUT IT, MY *ISLAND WILL FALL!*

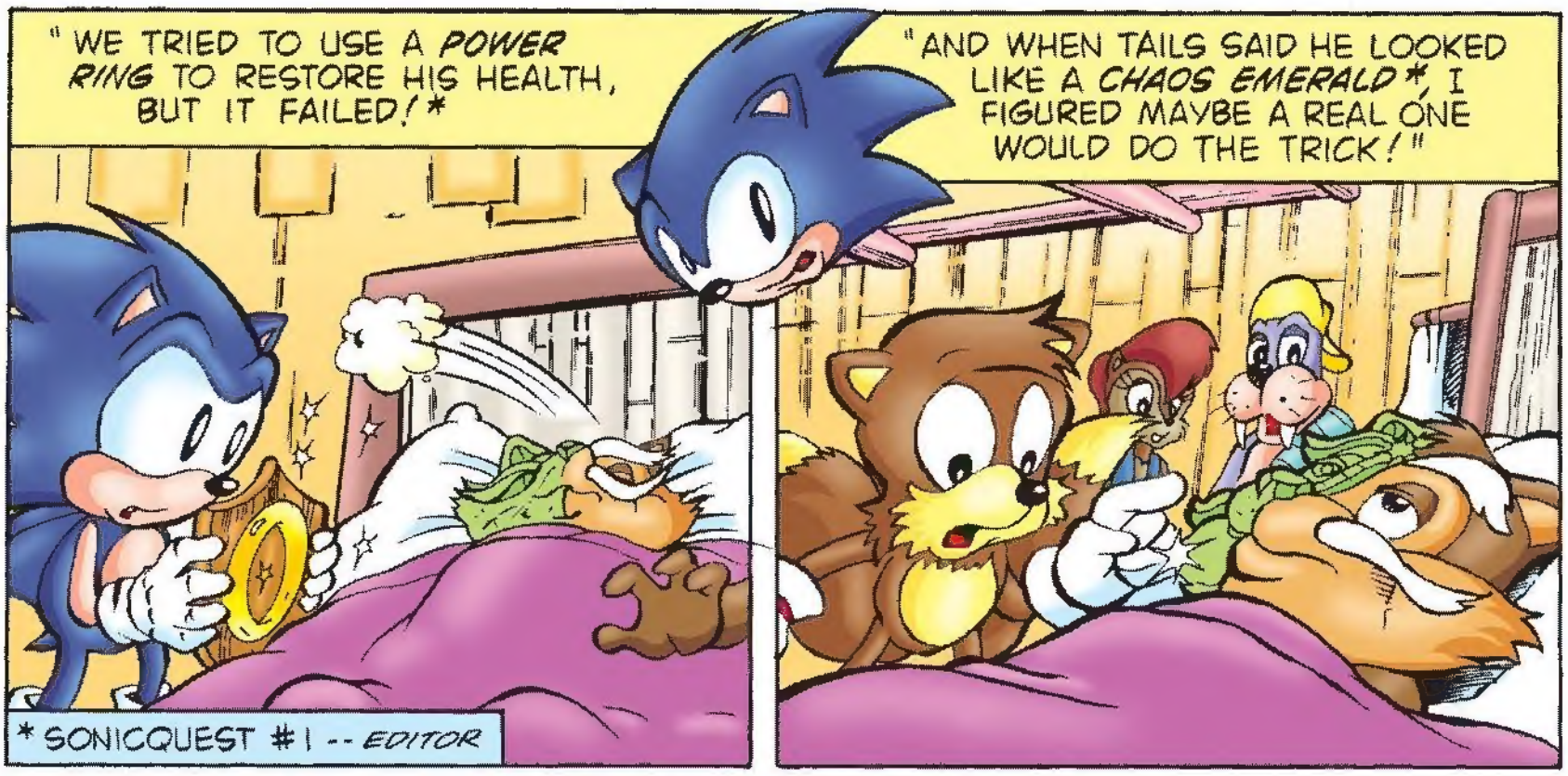
I'VE GOTTA HAVE IT -- THE FATE OF *MOBIUS* DEPENDS ON IT!

"IN EVERY KINGDOM THERE MUST EXIST A LITTLE CHAOS!"

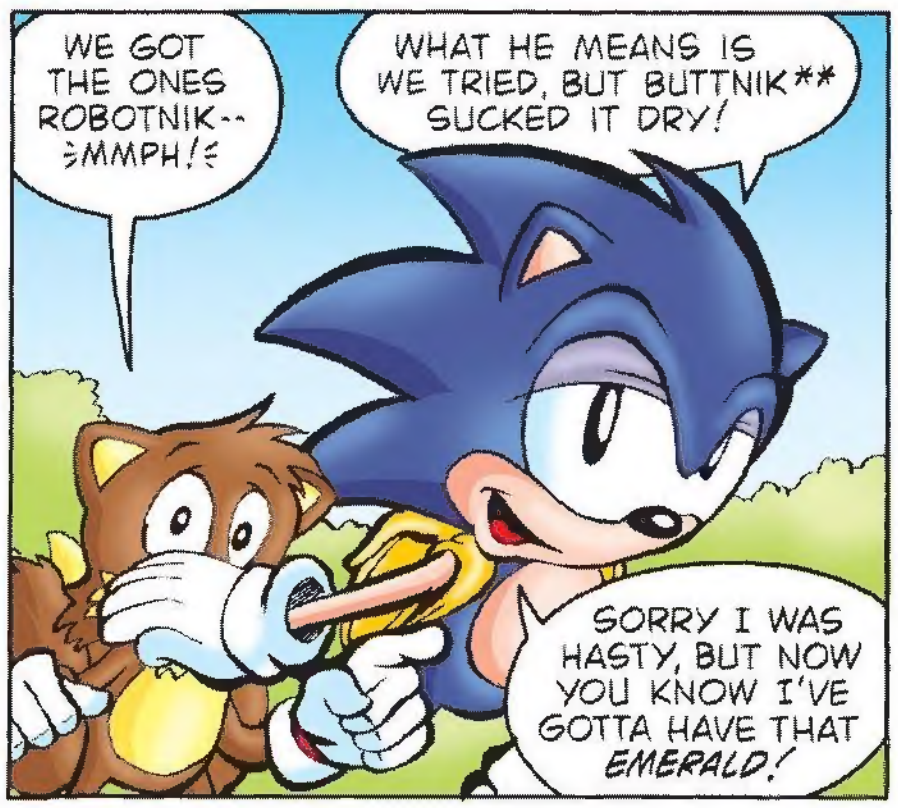
PART 1

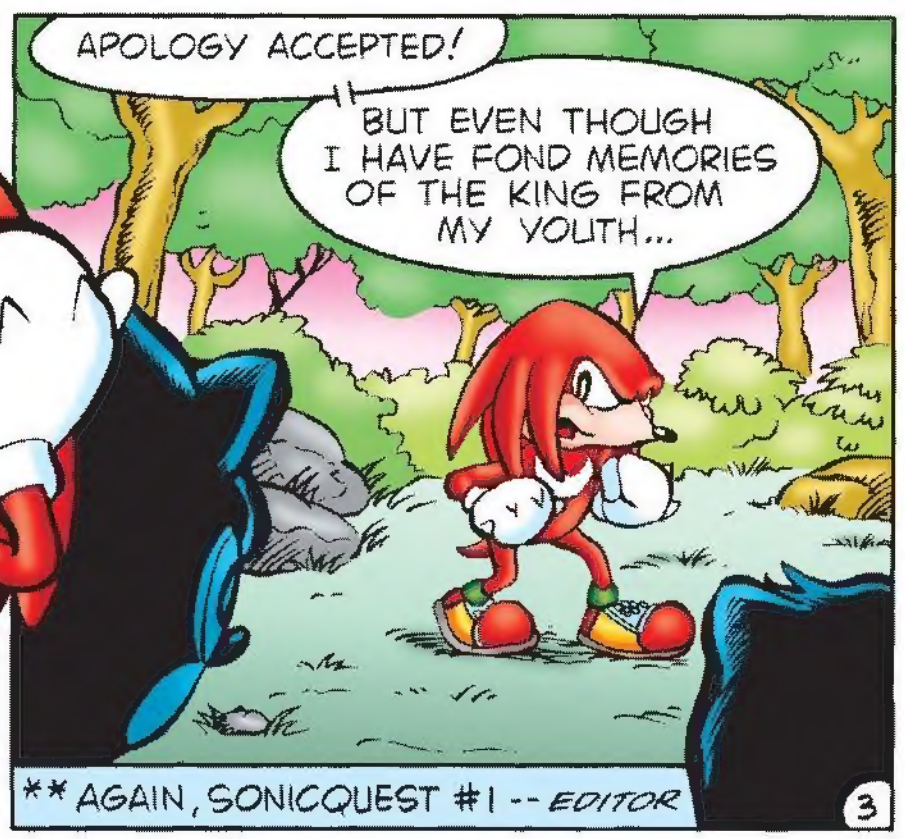
SCRIPT: KENT TAYLOR
ART: ART MAWHINNEY
INKER: PHIL SHEEHY
LETTERING: MINDY EISMAN
COLORING: BARRY GROSSMAN
EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE
MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER


ROBOTNIK JUST TRIED TO SINK MY ISLAND*-- NOW YOU WANT TO FINISH THE JOB?!
BRACK!
÷OFFF!÷ NO, BUT DURING THAT BATTLE I LEARNED YOU HAD A SPARE EMERALD WHICH YOU STOLE FROM THE POWER RING GROTTO!**
*NO, YOU DIDN'T MISS A THING, FANS. READ THE SONICQUEST LIMITED SERIES FOR THE LOWDOWN. ON SALE NOW!--EDITOR X1
** SUPER SONIC VS. HYPER KNUCKLES#1-EDITOR X2
THAT GROTTO'S ON WHAT USED TO BE ROYAL REAL ESTATE AND BY RIGHTS IT BELONGS TO KING ACORN'S FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
KRAK!
÷UGH!÷ SEZ YOU! I NEED THAT EXTRA EMERALD FOR "HOME OWNER'S INSURANCE" AND I WON'T GIVE IT UP!
SONIC! KNUCKLES! STOP! THIS WON'T SAVE KING ACORN'S LIFE!
WHAT'S HE MEAN? THE KING'S IMPRISONED!
NOT ANY MORE! WE FINALLY RESCUED HIM FROM THE ZONE OF SILENCE!***
*** LAST ISSUE -- EDITOR X3
THEN WHAT'S THIS ABOUT SAVING HIS LIFE?
SOME UNKNOWN SIDE EFFECT OF HIS IMPRISONMENT IS TURNING HIS BODY INTO CRYSTAL!****
**** SONICQUEST #1-- "TOO MANY FOOT-NOTES EDITOR"!

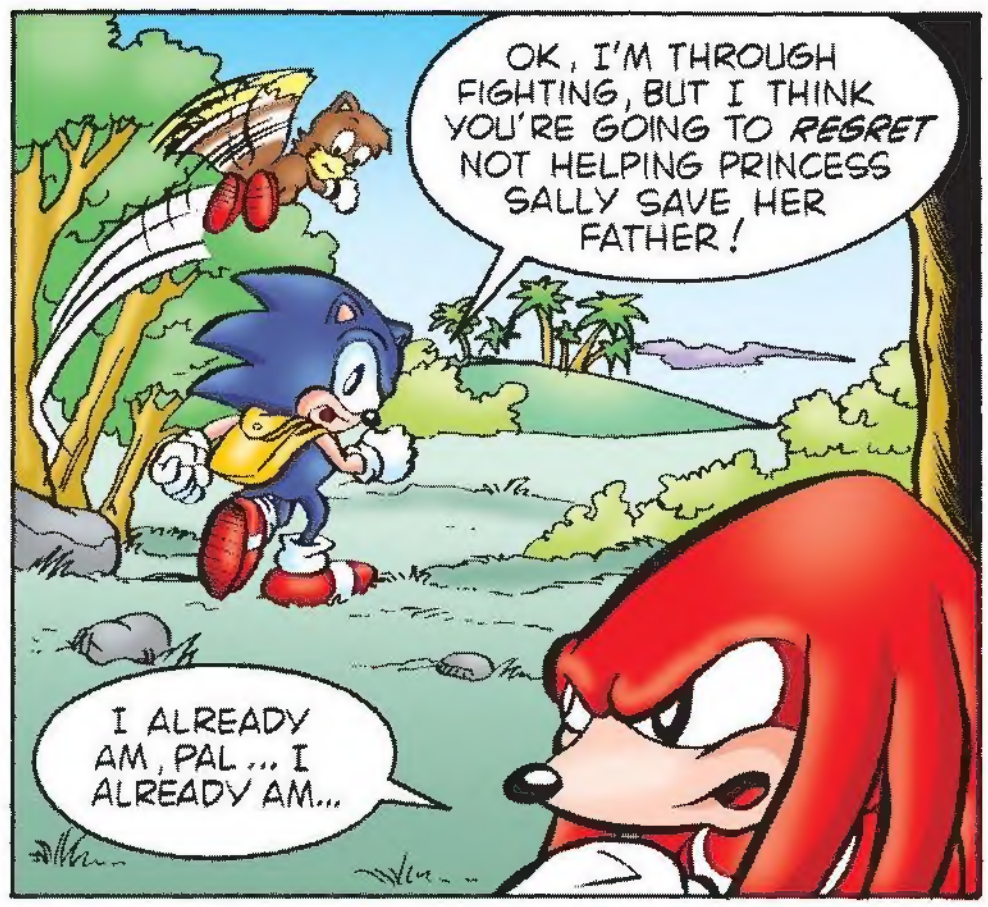

"WE TRIED TO USE A *POWER RING* TO RESTORE HIS HEALTH, BUT IT FAILED!*
"AND WHEN TAILS SAID HE LOOKED LIKE A *CHAOS EMERALD**, I FIGURED MAYBE A REAL ONE WOULD DO THE TRICK!"
* SONICQUEST #1 -- *EDITOR*

BESIDES, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS COULD USE ITS *POWER* AGAINST BUTTNIK'S NEW KICK-BUTT INVENTIONS!
IF IT'S POWER YOU NEED, WHY DON'T YOU JUST GET MORE *RINGS* FROM THE *GROTTO*?

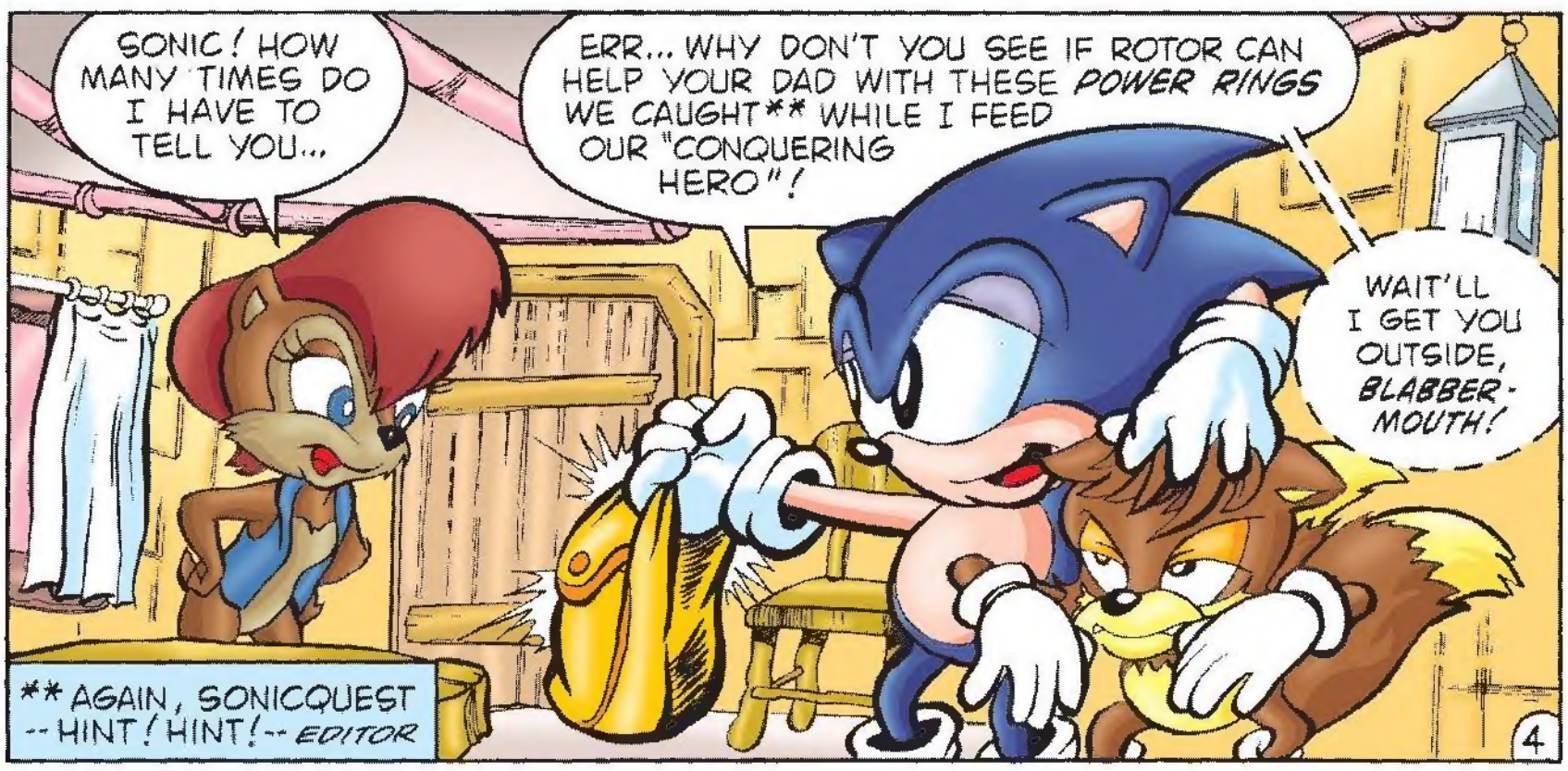

WE GOT THE ONES ROBOTNIK-- ≋MMPH!≋
WHAT HE MEANS IS WE TRIED, BUT BUTTNIK** SUCKED IT DRY!
SORRY I WAS HASTY, BUT NOW YOU KNOW I'VE GOTTA HAVE THAT *EMERALD*!


APOLOGY ACCEPTED!
BUT EVEN THOUGH I HAVE FOND MEMORIES OF THE KING FROM MY YOUTH...
** AGAIN, SONICQUEST #1 -- *EDITOR*

..."THE" SURVIVAL OF MY HOMELAND IS AS IMPORTANT AS YOUR *REBELLION*--
--NO EMERALD'S GONNA LEAVE THIS ISLAND, AND THAT'S *FINAL!*

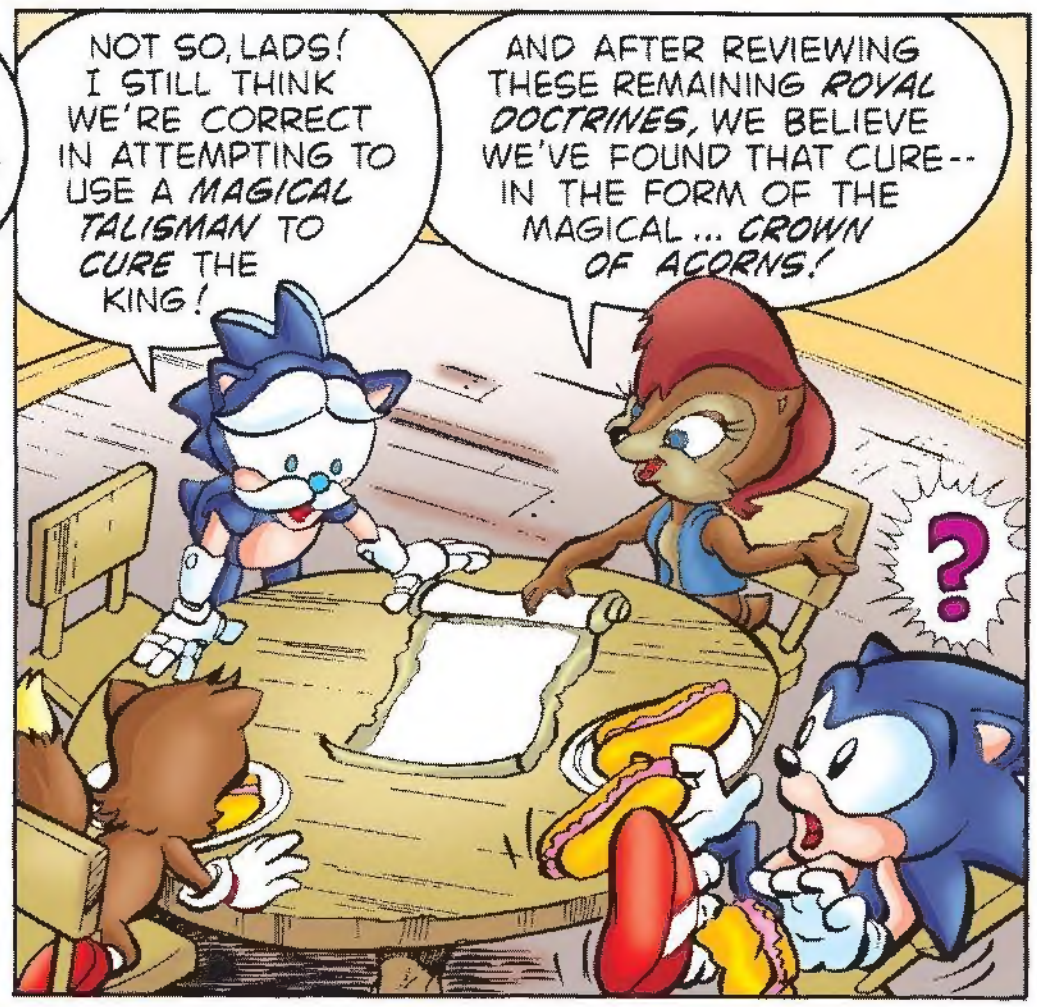

OK, I'M THROUGH FIGHTING, BUT I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO *REGRET* NOT HELPING PRINCESS SALLY SAVE HER FATHER!
I ALREADY AM, PAL... I ALREADY AM...

AS ONE "DOOR" CLOSES ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, ANOTHER OPENS IN *KNOTHOLE* THE NEXT DAY...
HEY, SAL! I'M HAPPY TO SAY I'M FINALLY FINISHED WITH THAT REPORT.*
"HAPPY"?! FOR CONQUERING HEROES, YOU LOOK MIGHTY *GLUM!*
THAT'S CAUSE SONIC KICKED KNUCKLES' BUTT AGAIN BUT HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO SAY--
--OOPPS!
* FOR THE DETAILS OF THAT REPORT, READ THE SONICQUEST SERIES--ON SALE NOW! *EDITOR*

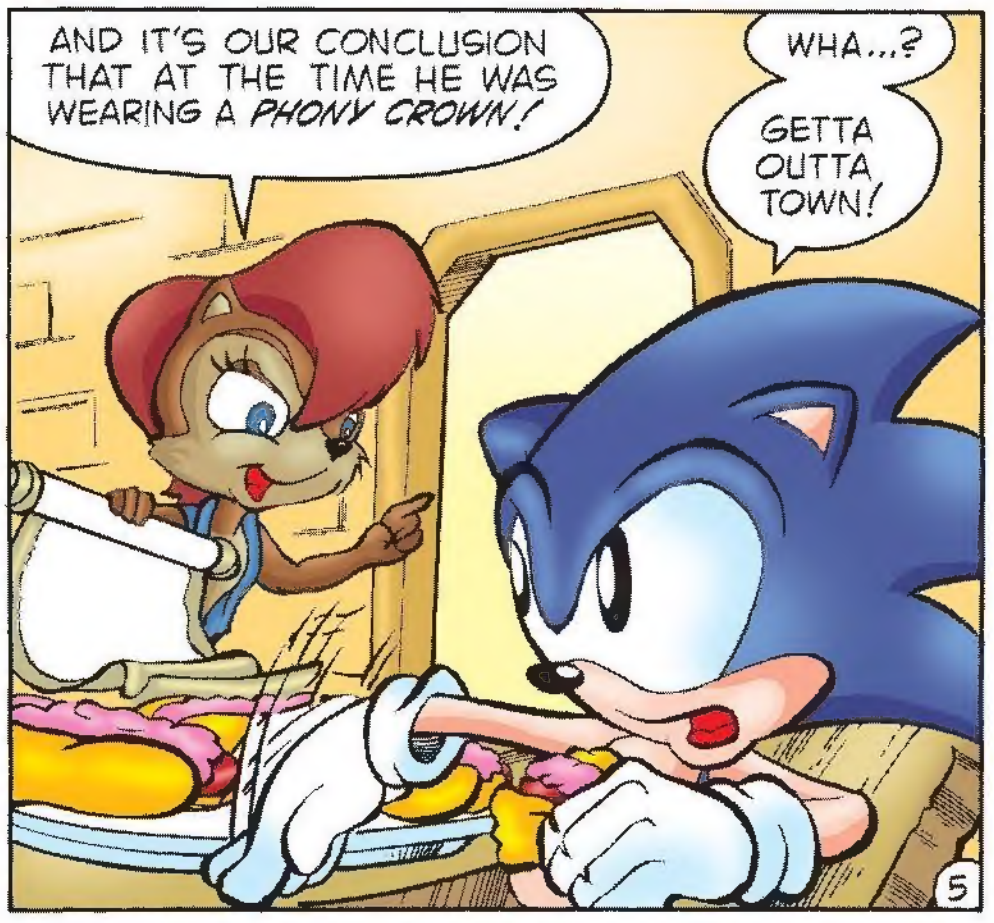

SONIC! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU...
ERR... WHY DON'T YOU SEE IF ROTOR CAN HELP YOUR DAD WITH THESE *POWER RINGS* WE CAUGHT** WHILE I FEED OUR "CONQUERING HERO"!
WAIT'LL I GET YOU OUTSIDE, *BLABBER-MOUTH!*
** AGAIN, SONICQUEST --HINT! HINT!-- *EDITOR*

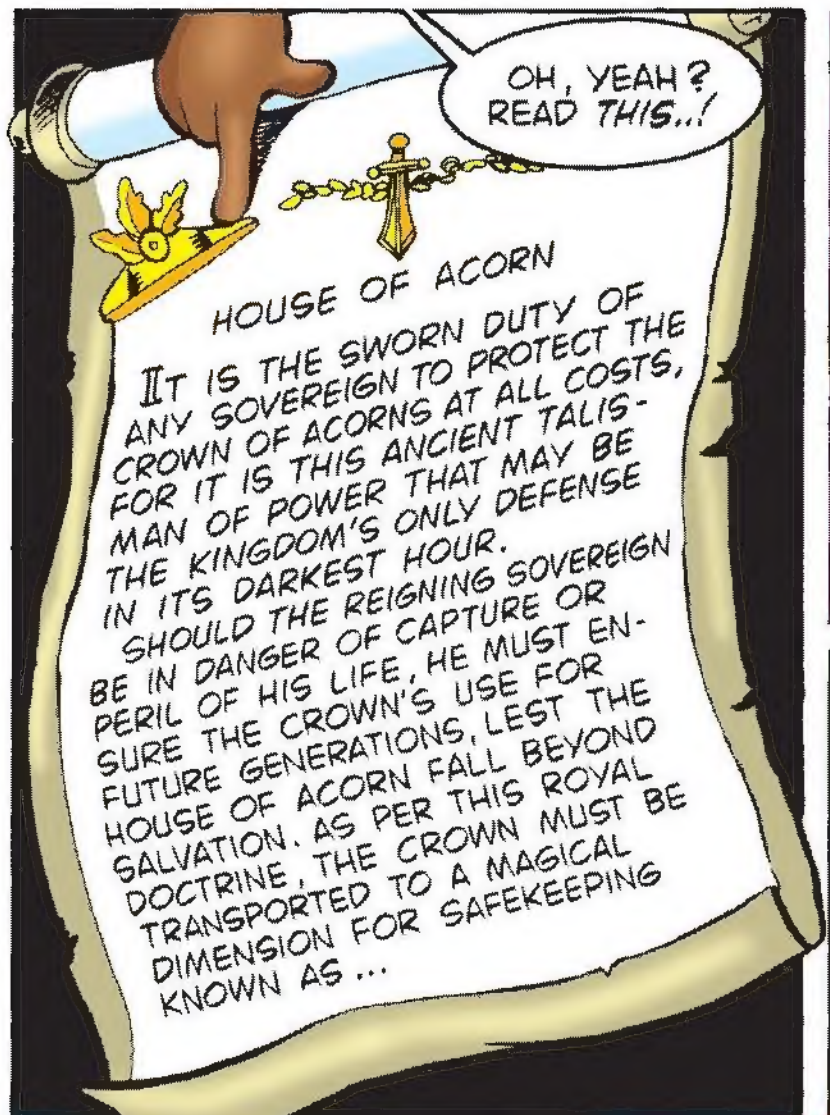
LATER...
...AND SO SONIC THOUGHT KNUCKLES' EXTRA EMERALD MIGHT...
HELLO, BOYS!
UNCLE CHUCK! SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU WERE HERE -- CHOMP NO ONE ELSE MAKES CHILI DOGS THIS GOOD!

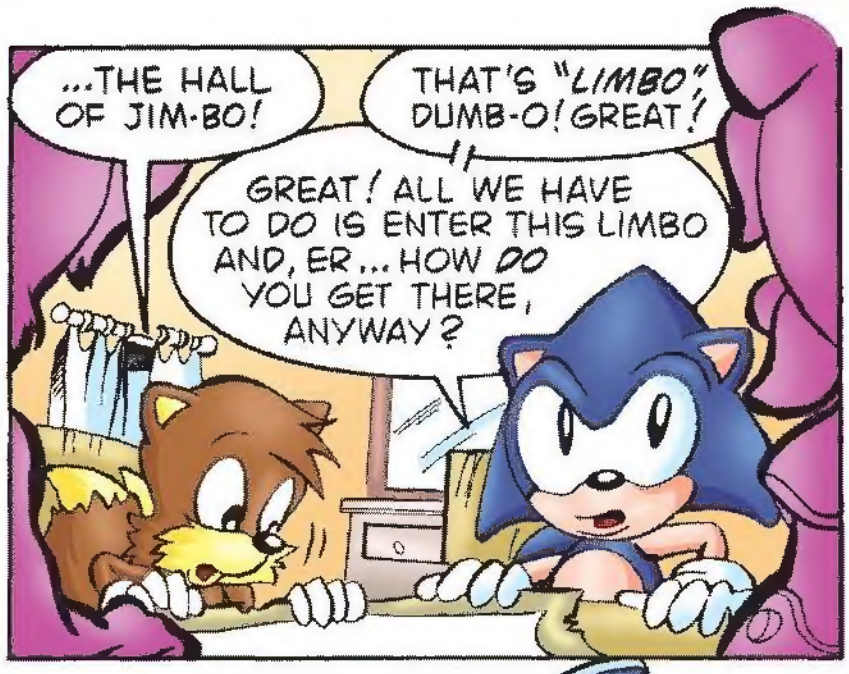
HOW'S FATHER?
ROTOR AND I USED UP ALL THE ENERGY IN THOSE POWER RINGS, BUT HIS CONDITION IS UNCHANGED!
I GUESS WE FAILED!


NOT SO, LADS! I STILL THINK WE'RE CORRECT IN ATTEMPTING TO USE A MAGICAL TALISMAN TO CURE THE KING!
AND AFTER REVIEWING THESE REMAINING ROYAL DOCTRINES, WE BELIEVE WE'VE FOUND THAT CURE -- IN THE FORM OF THE MAGICAL... CROWN OF ACORNS!
?

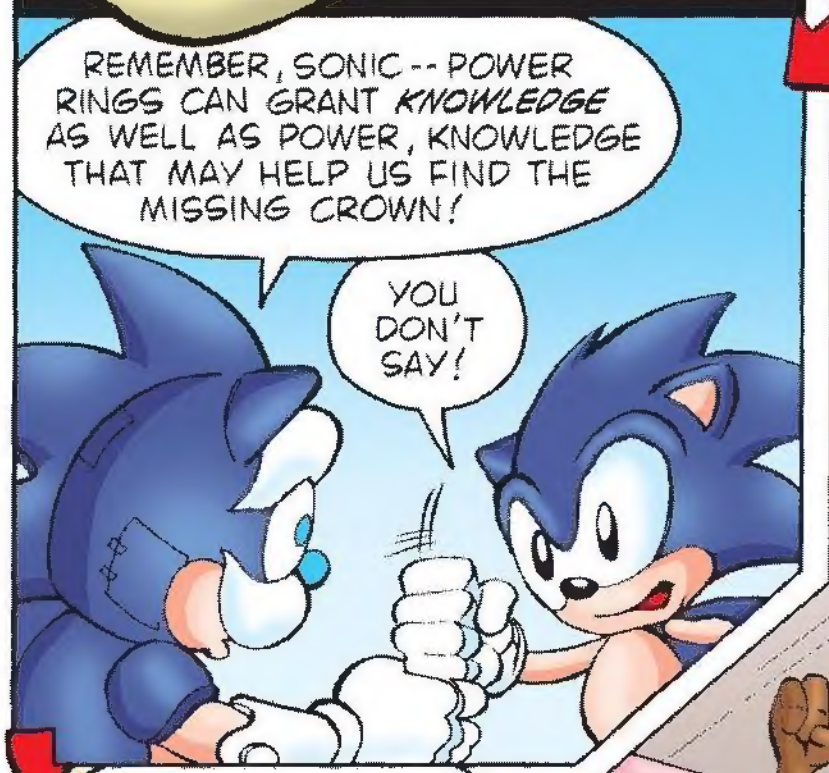
"THAT'S NO GOOD! THE KING WAS WEARING THE CROWN WHEN HE WAS BANISHED -- AND WE NEVER RECOVERED IT!"


AND IT'S OUR CONCLUSION THAT AT THE TIME HE WAS WEARING A PHONY CROWN!
WHA...?
GETTA OUTTA TOWN!


OH, YEAH? READ THIS..!
HOUSE OF ACORN
IT IS THE SWORN DUTY OF ANY SOVEREIGN TO PROTECT THE CROWN OF ACORNS AT ALL COSTS, FOR IT IS THIS ANCIENT TALISMAN OF POWER THAT MAY BE THE KINGDOM'S ONLY DEFENSE IN ITS DARKEST HOUR.
SHOULD THE REIGNING SOVEREIGN BE IN DANGER OF CAPTURE OR PERIL OF HIS LIFE, HE MUST ENSURE THE CROWN'S USE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, LEST THE HOUSE OF ACORN FALL BEYOND SALVATION. AS PER THIS ROYAL DOCTRINE, THE CROWN MUST BE TRANSPORTED TO A MAGICAL DIMENSION FOR SAFEKEEPING KNOWN AS...


...THE HALL OF JIM-BO!
THAT'S "LIMBO", DUMB-O! GREAT!
GREAT! ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS ENTER THIS LIMBO AND, ER... HOW DO YOU GET THERE, ANYWAY?

THE DOCTRINES DON'T SAY, BUT ONCE AGAIN I THINK OUR ANSWER CAN BE FOUND WITH MAGIC--THE MAGIC OF POWER RINGS!


REMEMBER, SONIC -- POWER RINGS CAN GRANT KNOWLEDGE AS WELL AS POWER, KNOWLEDGE THAT MAY HELP US FIND THE MISSING CROWN!
YOU DON'T SAY!

AND IT'S TIME FOR US TO PREPARE FOR OUR MISSION-- COME DAWN, WE'RE GOING TO THE LAKE OF RINGS AND BEGIN OPERATION: SAVE THE KING!

IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GET BACK TO MY "UNDERCOVER JOB" IN ROBOTROPOLIS BEFORE I'M MISSED!

END OF PART 1

"IN EVERY KINGDOM THERE MUST EXIST A LITTLE CHAOS!"

PART 2

ACCORDING TO ANTOINE & BUNNIE'S REPORT, A RING APPEARS OUT OF THE LAKE ONCE EVERY HOUR. THE NEXT ONE IS DUE TO COME OUT IN A FEW MINUTES.

SO WHY ARE WE WAITING *HERE*, SO FAR FROM THE LAKE "AUNT" SALLY?

WELL, YOU KNOW ITS EXISTENCE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A *SECRET* FROM EVERYONE BUT UNCLE CHUCK AND THE *CORE* FREEDOM FIGHTERS...

... BUT WE'RE WORRIED THAT THOSE *COMBOTS* MAY HAVE TRANSMITTED ITS LOCATION TO BUTTNIK AFTER AMBUSHING US!*

*SONIC # 38 -- *EDITOR*

SO UNCLE CHUCK SET UP A MEETING *HERE* WITH *FLY FLY FREDDY* TO REPORT ON WHAT ROBOTNIK REALLY KNOWS.

THE *SPY NETWORK*** SHOULD KNOW THE SCORE...

**LAST SEEN IN SONIC#38 -*EDITOR*

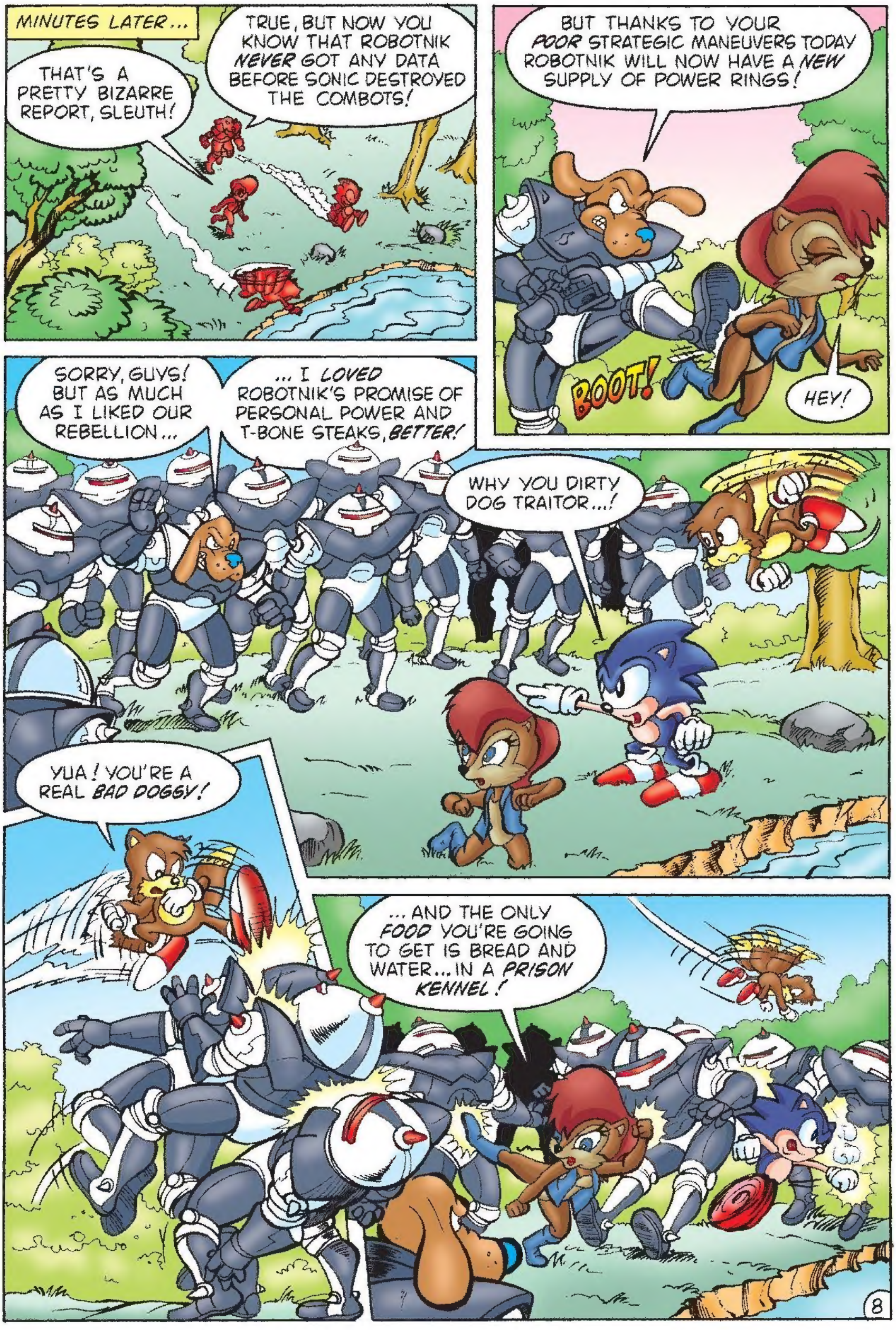
...PROVIDING FRED EVER GETS HERE... ÷WHOA÷ *SLEUTH!* WHAT'RE *YOU* DOING HERE?

SORRY TO STARTLE YOU! FRED'S COVER WAS ALMOST *BLOWN*, BUT *I* WAS ABLE TO LEAVE ROBOTROPOLIS SAFELY!

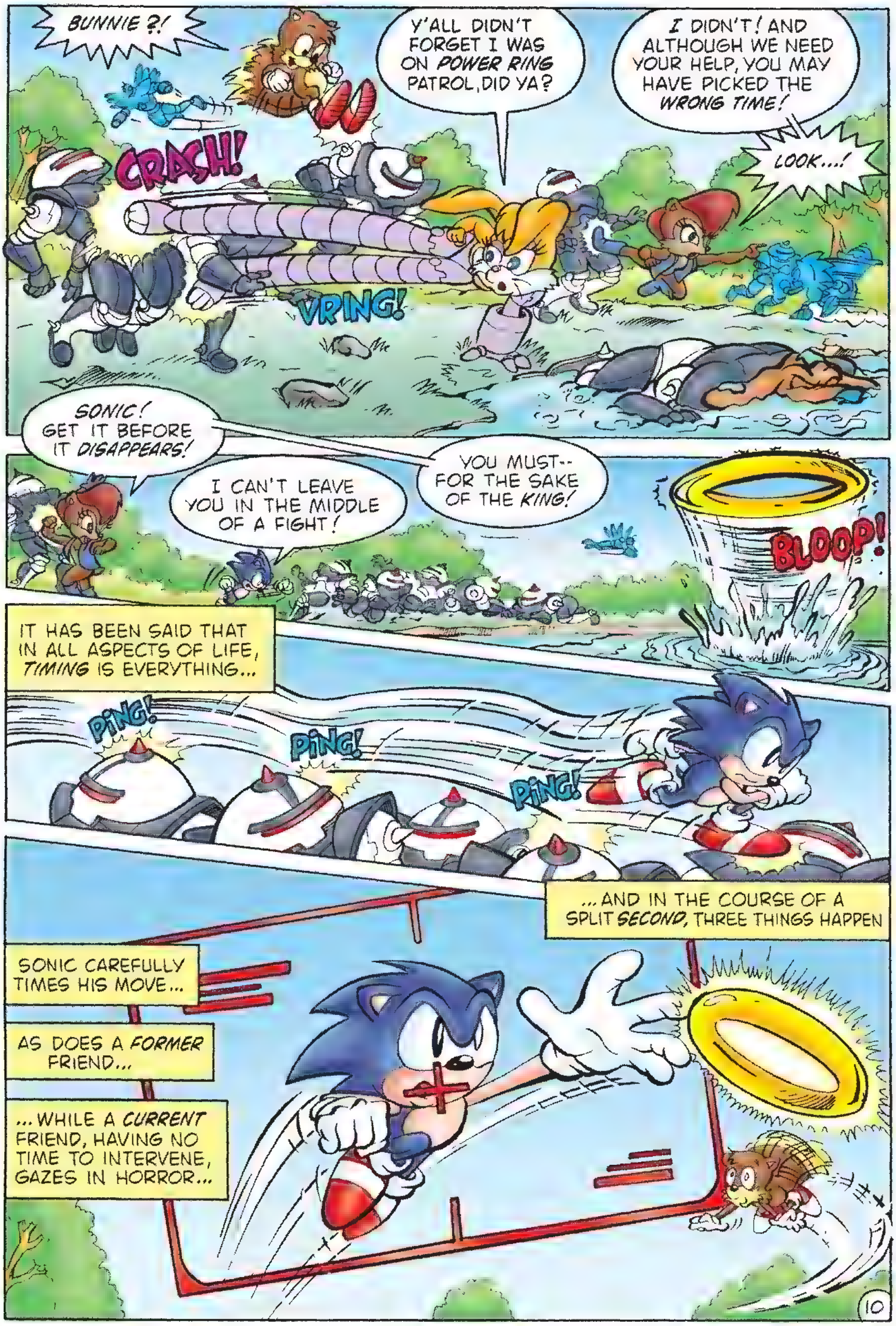
LET ME DETAIL *HIS REPORT* WHILE WE HEAD OVER TO THE LAKE!

THIS ISN'T STANDARD PROCEDURE, SOLDIER!

TOO TRUE, SAL! BUT SINCE WE'RE ALREADY *BEHIND* SCHEDULE, I THINK WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH ITS LOCATION!


MINUTES LATER...
THAT'S A PRETTY BIZARRE REPORT, SLEUTH!
TRUE, BUT NOW YOU KNOW THAT ROBOTNIK NEVER GOT ANY DATA BEFORE SONIC DESTROYED THE COMBOTS!
BUT THANKS TO YOUR POOR STRATEGIC MANEUVERS TODAY ROBOTNIK WILL NOW HAVE A NEW SUPPLY OF POWER RINGS!
BOOT!
HEY!
SORRY, GUYS! BUT AS MUCH AS I LIKED OUR REBELLION...
... I LOVED ROBOTNIK'S PROMISE OF PERSONAL POWER AND T-BONE STEAKS, BETTER!
WHY YOU DIRTY DOG TRAITOR...!
YUA! YOU'RE A REAL BAD DOGGY!
... AND THE ONLY FOOD YOU'RE GOING TO GET IS BREAD AND WATER... IN A PRISON KENNEL!

I KINDA DOUBT THAT!
LOOK OUT, GUYS--IT'S SOME SOME KIND OF SUPER 'BOT!
CLICK!
BZAK!
THAT'S NOT JUST A 'BOT--THAT'S FLY FLY FREDDY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--FIRST CARL CONDOR GETS ROBOTICIZED* AND NOW FREDDY!!!
THAT'S ALL I CAN STAND 'CAUSE I CAN'T STAND NO MORE!
*SONICQUEST #1 -- EDITOR
THAT'S RIGHT!
IN A FEW SECONDS YOU WON'T BE STANDING AT ALL!
BZAK!
ZOOM!
ZOOM!
KA-BLOOGE!
AND NEITHER WILL YOU, SUGAH!
SPLOOSH!


BUNNIE ?!
Y'ALL DIDN'T FORGET I WAS ON *POWER RING* PATROL, DID YA?
I DIDN'T! AND ALTHOUGH WE NEED YOUR HELP, YOU MAY HAVE PICKED THE *WRONG TIME!*
LOOK...!
CRASH!
VRING!
SONIC! GET IT BEFORE IT *DISAPPEARS!*
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT!
YOU MUST-- FOR THE SAKE OF THE *KING!*
BLOOP!
IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE, *TIMING* IS EVERYTHING...
PING!
PING!
PING!
...AND IN THE COURSE OF A SPLIT *SECOND*, THREE THINGS HAPPEN
SONIC CAREFULLY TIMES HIS MOVE...
AS DOES A *FORMER* FRIEND...
...WHILE A *CURRENT* FRIEND, HAVING NO TIME TO INTERVENE, GAZES IN HORROR...

THANKFULLY, THE DAWNING OF A *NEW* FRIENDSHIP IS *WELL-TIMED* FOR THE *NEXT* SECOND WITH SONIC REAPING THE REWARDS!
I'M JUST IN TIME!
ZORCH!
KRASH!
FUNNY, THAT'S WHAT *I* WAS GOING TO SAY!
I GUESS IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY--"ALL GOOD THINGS COME FROM ABOVE!"
I ONCE SAID THAT AND THEN A *PIGEON* FLEW OVER MY HEAD...!
MIGHT I REMIND YOU COMEDIANS, WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF BATTLE?!
POW!
MIGHT I REMIND *YOU* THAT NOT ONLY AM I FAST ON MY *FEET*...
KA-POW!
POW!
POW!
...I'M ALSO WELL-*ARMED* FOR BATTLE!

NO NEED TO BE A WORRY-WART, NOT WHEN MY NEW *WHIRLWIND WHAMMY* CAN WALLOP THESE WIENIES!
BA-LANG
WHIRRRRR
CRASH!

NEXT TIME, WARN US FIRST, SUGAH HOG!
NICE WORK, GUYS! NOW WE CAN MAKE THIS TRAITOR STAND TRIAL...
...AFTER WE TRY TO RESTORE FRED...
...AND *AFTER* WE TRY TO RESTORE THE KING!

AFTER ALL, NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT AN ECHIDNA CAN'T HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART!
WOW! SONIC WILL BE FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU SOMETHING *BEFORE* BLABBER-MOUTH?!

OK, TROOPS, IT'S BACK TO KNOTHOLE--
--OPERATION: SAVE THE KING IS NOW IN *PHASE TWO!*
END OF PART 2

"IN EVERY KINGDOM THERE MUST EXIST A LITTLE CHAOS!"

PART 3

SO, THIS IS WHAT'S LEFT OF THE ONCE BEAUTIFUL *KINGDOM OF ACORN*?! WAR SURE LEAVES ITS SCARS!

I'LL GIVE YOU THE NICKEL TOUR LATER!

RIGHT NOW I WANT TO KNOW WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?

THAT WAS MY DOING, SONIC!

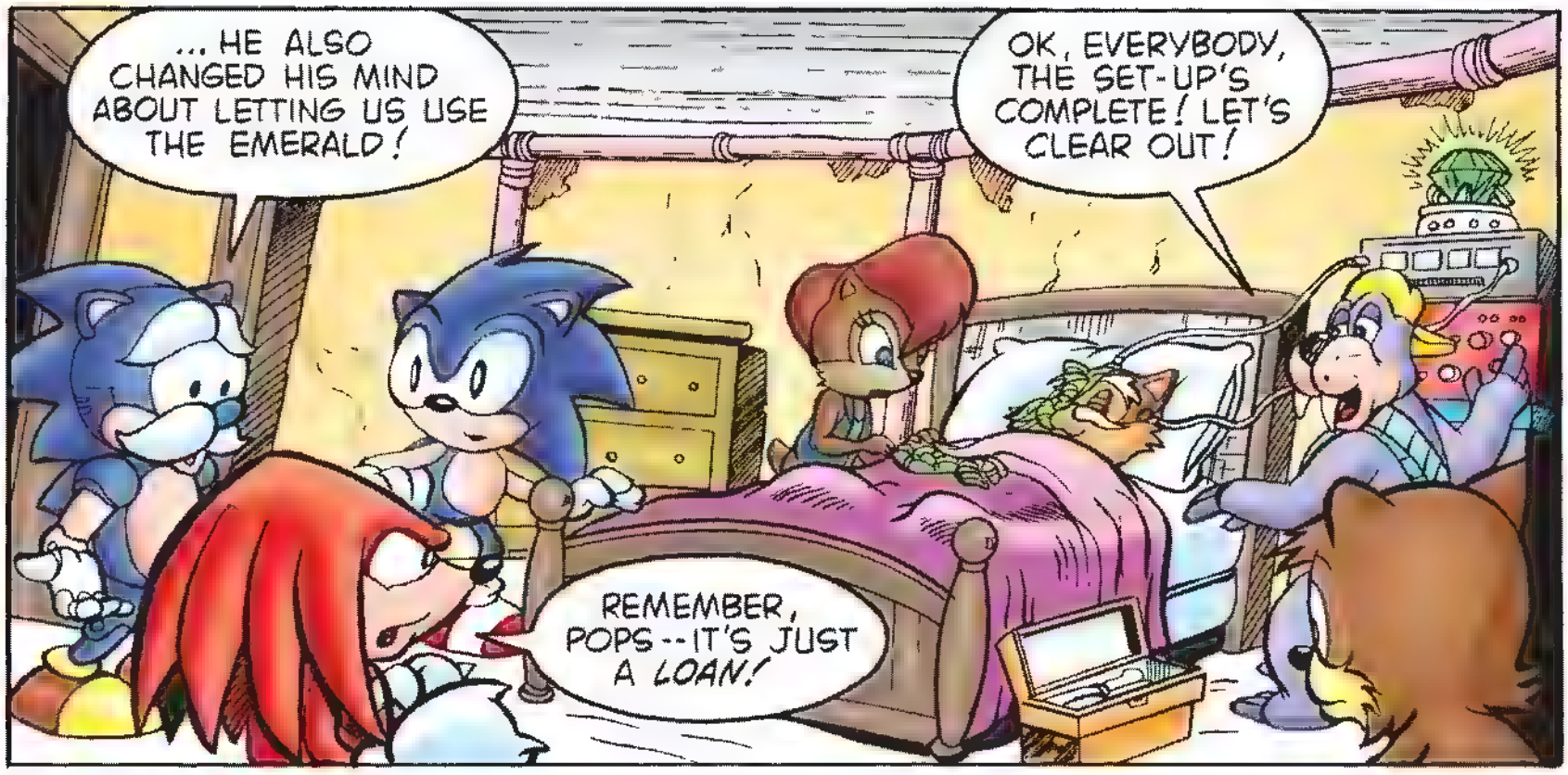
"FOR SOME TIME I'VE SUSPECTED THERE MAY BE A *DOUBLE AGENT* IN OUR SPY NETWORK...

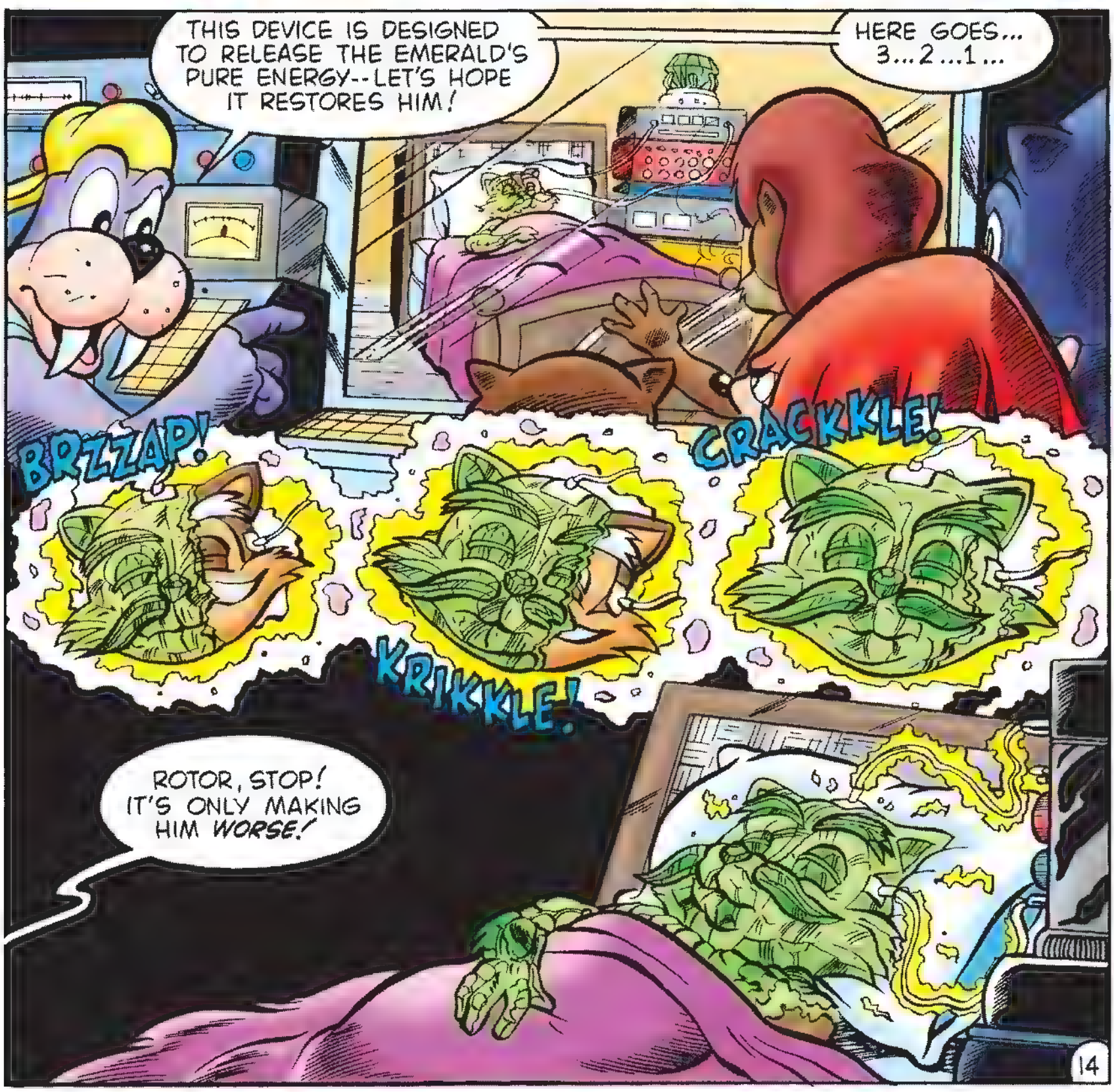
"... AND MY FEARS WERE CONFIRMED WHEN *FRED* FAILED TO REPORT FOR ORDERS...

"NOT KNOWING WHO I COULD NOW TRUST, I THOUGHT IT BEST TO CALL ON *OUTSIDE* ASSISTANCE...

" USING AN *OUTDATED* AND *UNTRACEABLE* FREQUENCY, I RADIOED KNUCKLES...

"NOT ONLY DID HE AGREE TO HELP..."


... HE ALSO CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT LETTING US USE THE EMERALD!
OK, EVERYBODY, THE SET-UP'S COMPLETE! LET'S CLEAR OUT!
REMEMBER, POPS--IT'S JUST A *LOAN!*


THIS DEVICE IS DESIGNED TO RELEASE THE EMERALD'S PURE ENERGY--LET'S HOPE IT RESTORES HIM!
HERE GOES... 3...2...1...
BRZZAP!
CRACKKLE!
KRIKKLE!
ROTOR, STOP! IT'S ONLY MAKING HIM *WORSE!*

I HAD A FEELING THIS MIGHT HAPPEN! THE EMERALD'S ENERGIES ARE JUST TOO *MYSTERIOUS!*
THANK GOODNESS THE RESULTING MUTATION WAS ONLY *TEMPORARY!*
YEAH, BUT HE'S STILL IN *BAD SHAPE!*
OUR ONLY HOPE LIES WITH YOUR POWER RING'S ABILITY TO LEAD US TO HIS *CROWN!* SONIC...?
STAND BACK, EVERYBODY-- IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I CALLED ON A RING FOR *KNOWLEDGE!*

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! WHAT HAPPENED?

PLINK!

PLINK!

ugh! NOW I REMEMBER WHY I'D RATHER USE THE RINGS TO *JUICE*--THAT HURT MY *HEAD* AND MY *TUSH!*

WHUMP!

SO, WHERE'S THE CROWN? DID YOU FIND THE *HALL OF LIMBO?*

NO! BUT I DID LEARN THAT THE KING'S *ROYAL SWORD* HAS A *MAGICAL LINK* TO THE CROWN, AND *IT* WILL LEAD US TO IT!

BUT THE RIDDLE WITHIN THE RIDDLE IS--WE *DON'T* KNOW *WHERE* THE SWORD IS!!!

IT'S HOPELESS!

PRINCESS, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO LOSE YOUR FATHER TWICE. ONCE IS ENOUGH FOR ANYONE. I KNOW*--AND I WON'T LET YOU DOWN!

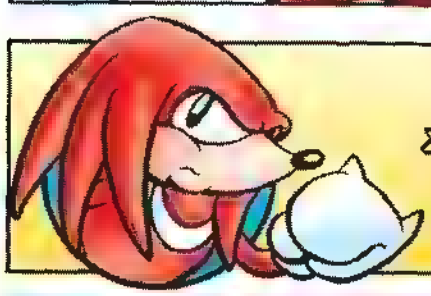
*KNUCKLES DOESN'T KNOW HIS FATHER'S ALIVE - *EDITOR*

THAT'S WHY I'M MAKING IT MY *PERSONAL QUEST* TO FIND THAT SWORD!

ONE WAY OR THE OTHER I WILL SEE IT RETURNED AND THE KING RESTORED!

THIS I SOLEMNLY VOW!

KNUCKLES QUEST BEGINS THIS ISSUE! FLIP THE PAGES AND ENJOY!



KEN PENDERS & KENT TAYLOR *WRITERS*

ART MAWHINNEY & BRIAN THOMAS *ARTISTS*

MINDY EISMAN *LETTERER*

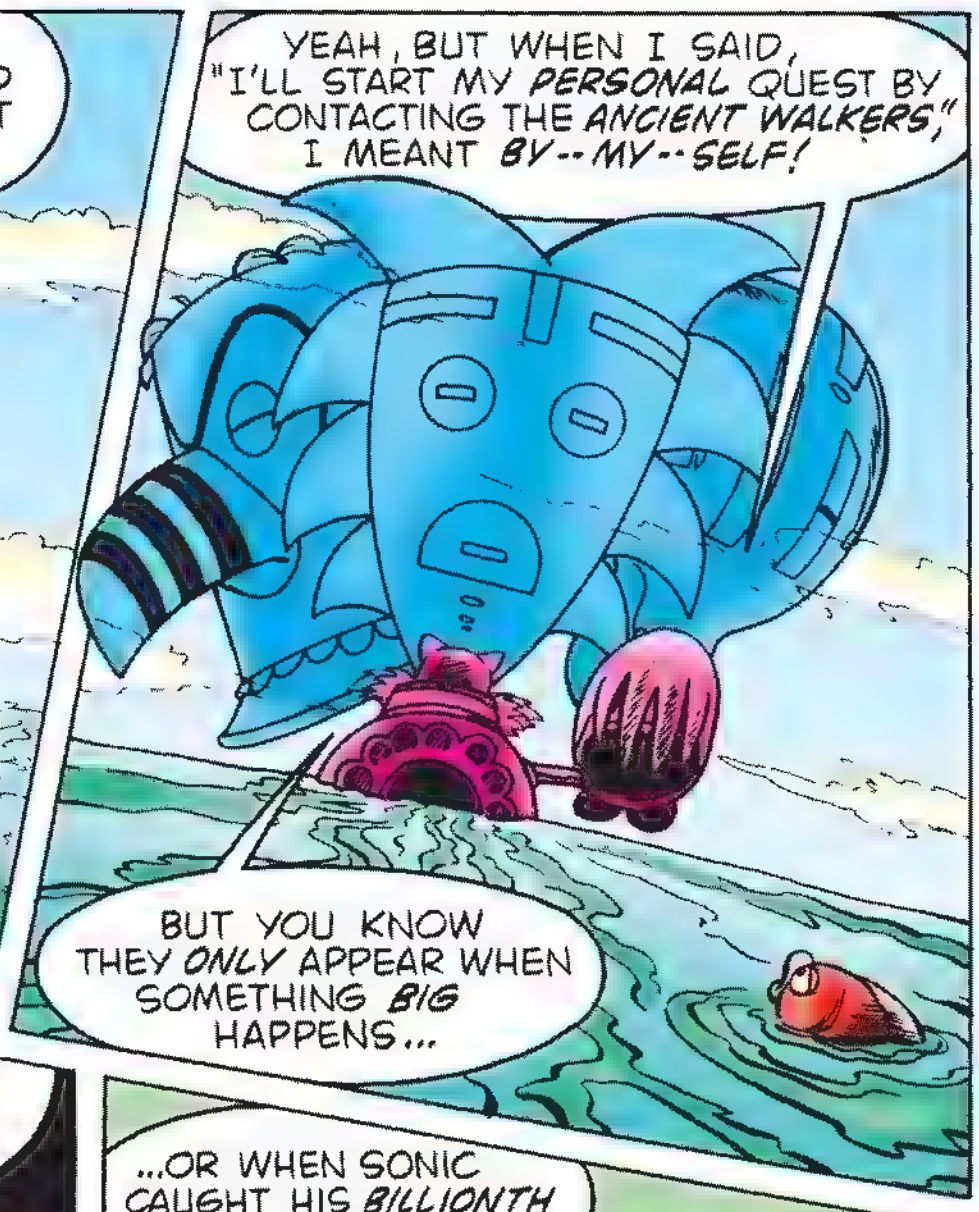
BARRY GROSSMAN *COLORIST*

KNUCKLES' QUEST!

AW, YOU'RE JUST *CRANKY* 'CAUSE YOU HAVE TO RIDE *SHOTGUN* ON ROTOR'S *MAKESHIFT* SUB SEAT!*

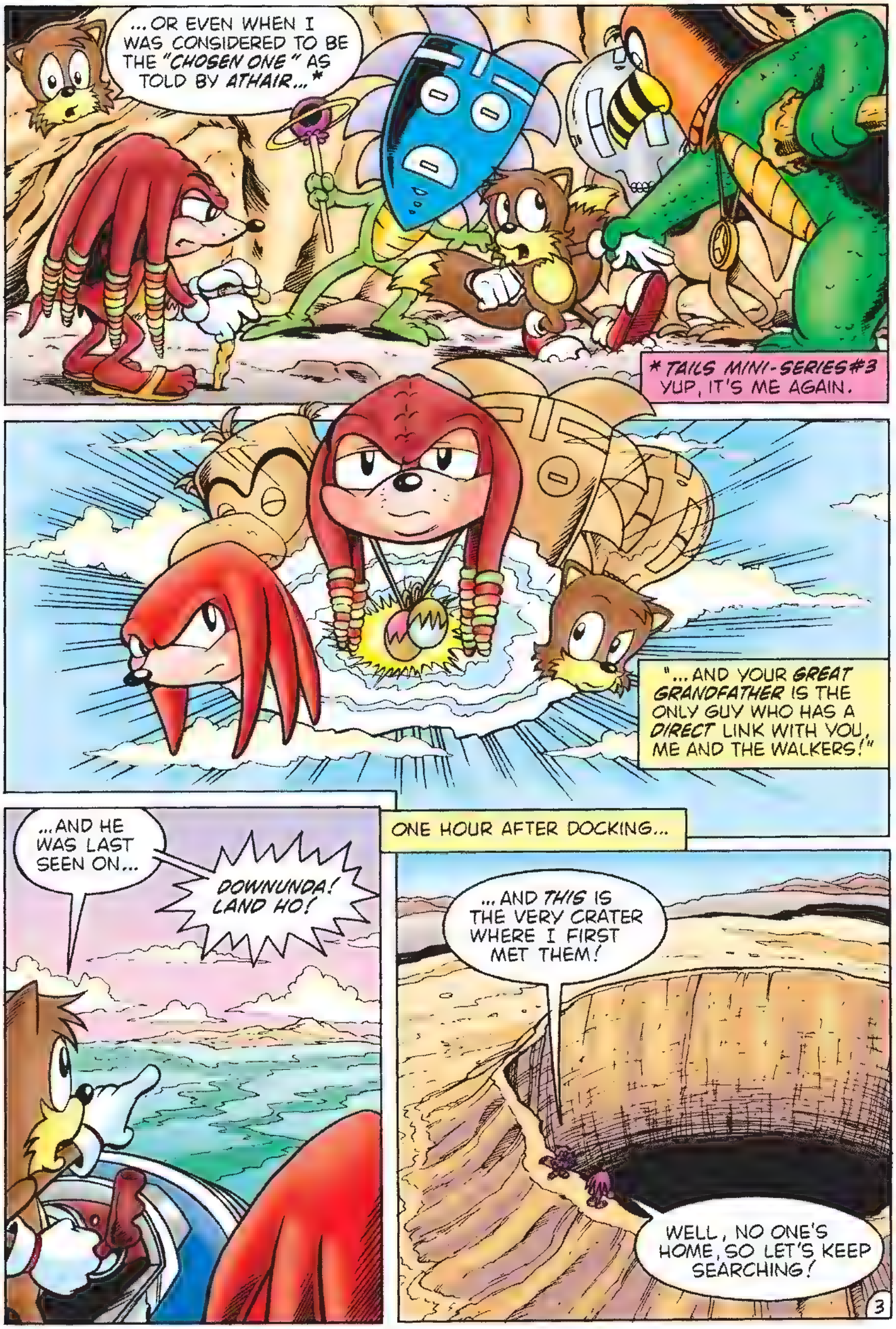
*EVERYONE REMEMBER THE SEA FOX FROM TAILS' MINI-SERIES? -*EDITOR*

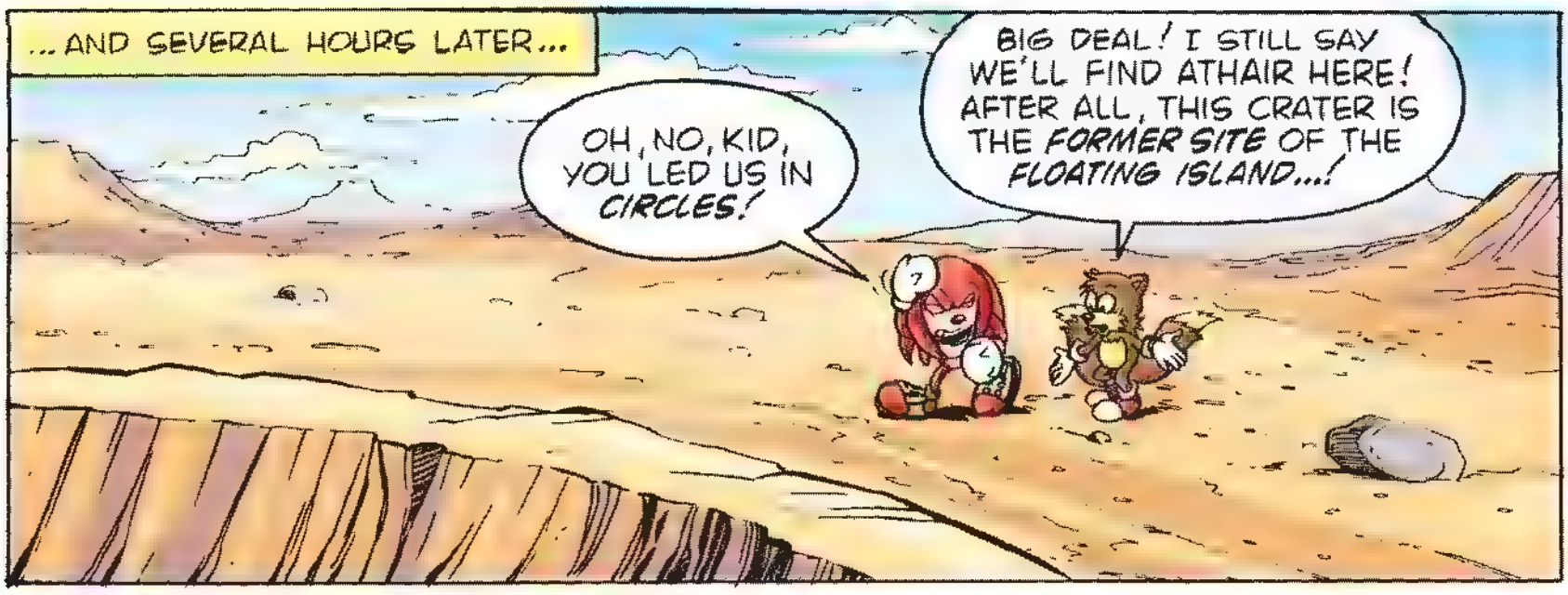
BESIDES, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID, "IF I'M GOING TO FIND A MAGIC SWORD, I BETTER START BY REACHING OUT TO A GREAT SOURCE OF MAGIC!"


YEAH, BUT WHEN I SAID, "I'LL START MY PERSONAL QUEST BY CONTACTING THE ANCIENT WALKERS," I MEANT BY--MY--SELF!
BUT YOU KNOW THEY ONLY APPEAR WHEN SOMETHING BIG HAPPENS...

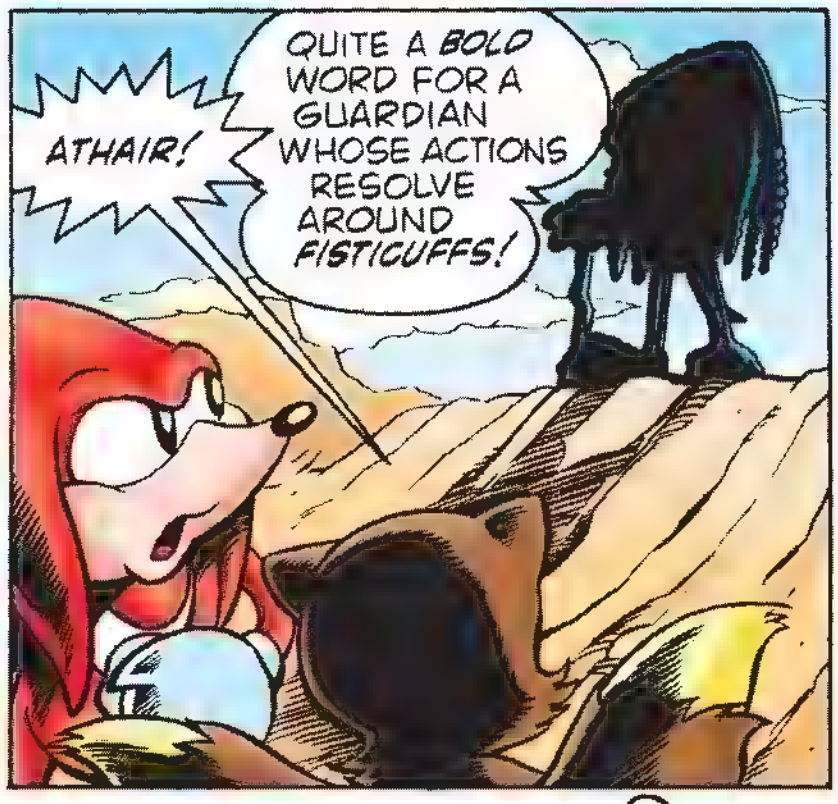
...LIKE THE TIME YOU THOUGHT YOU WENT TO ECHIDNA HEAVEN...*
*SONIC TRIPLE TROUBLE #1-EDITOR

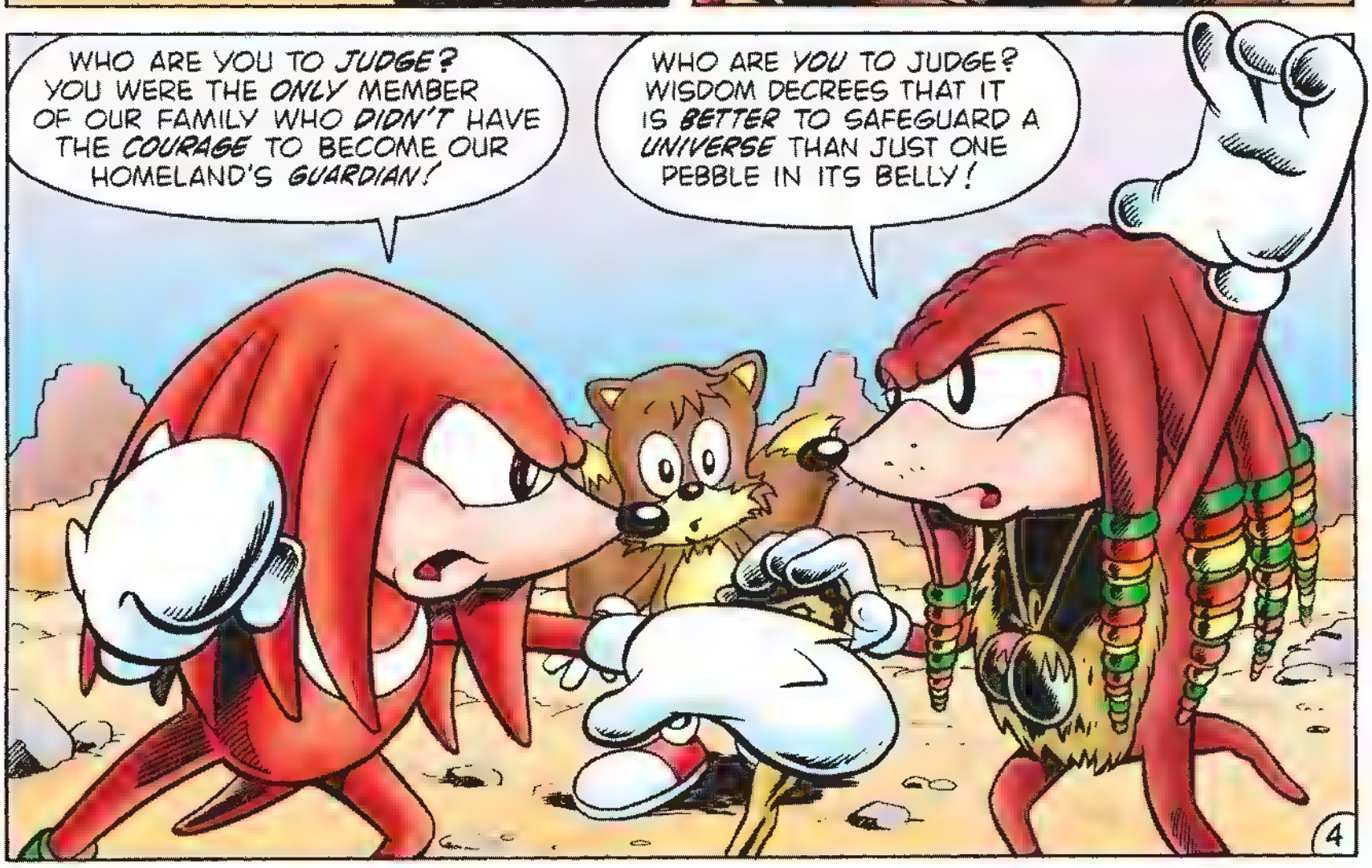
...OR WHEN SONIC CAUGHT HIS BILLIONTH POWER RING...*
*SONIC #35- EDITOR

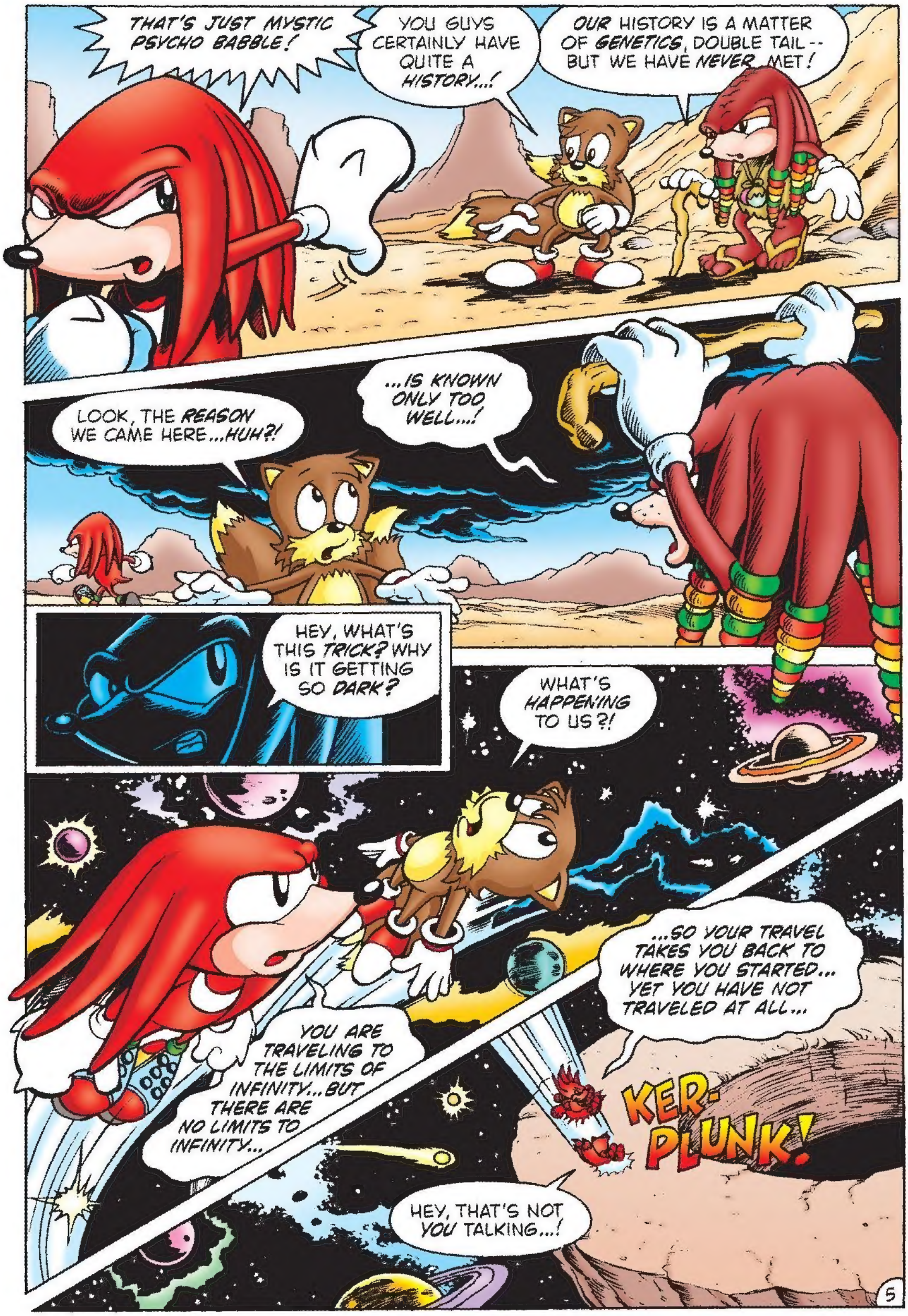

...OR EVEN WHEN I WAS CONSIDERED TO BE THE "CHOSEN ONE" AS TOLD BY ATHAIR...*
* TAILS MINI-SERIES #3 YUP, IT'S ME AGAIN.
"...AND YOUR GREAT GRANDFATHER IS THE ONLY GUY WHO HAS A DIRECT LINK WITH YOU, ME AND THE WALKERS!"
...AND HE WAS LAST SEEN ON...
DOWNUNDA! LAND HO!
ONE HOUR AFTER DOCKING...
...AND THIS IS THE VERY CRATER WHERE I FIRST MET THEM!
WELL, NO ONE'S HOME, SO LET'S KEEP SEARCHING!


...AND SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
OH, NO, KID, YOU LED US IN CIRCLES!
BIG DEAL! I STILL SAY WE'LL FIND ATHAIR HERE! AFTER ALL, THIS CRATER IS THE FORMER SITE OF THE FLOATING ISLAND...!

WHAT?! NO WAY! IMPOSSIBLE! OK, KID, I THINK I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR...
THINK? DO YOU REALLY, IMMATURE ONE...?

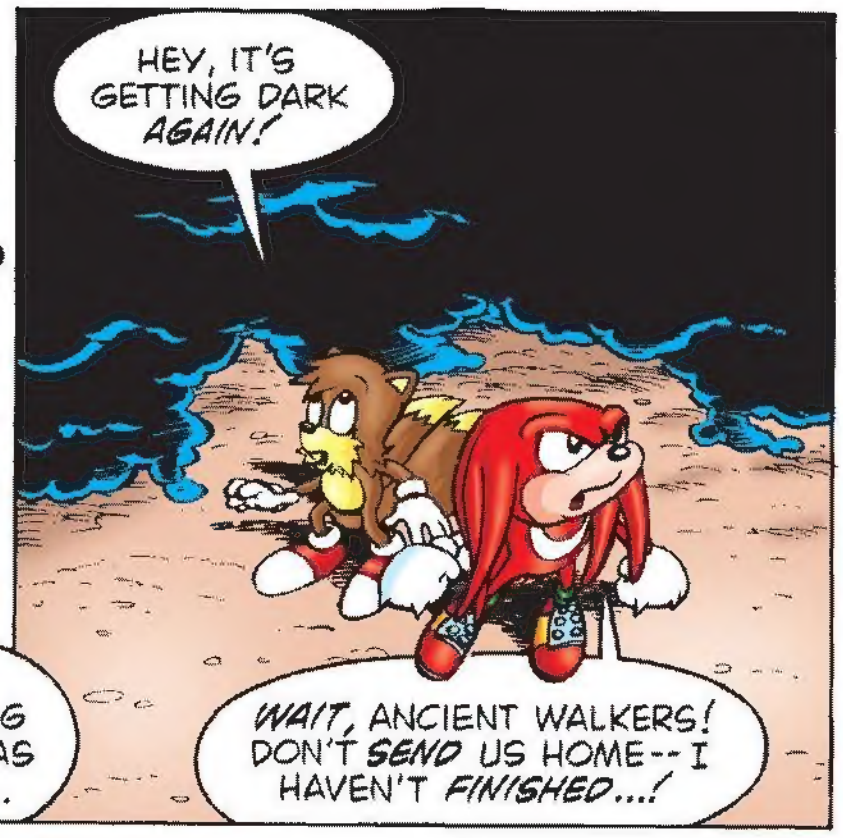

ATHAIR!
QUITE A BOLD WORD FOR A GUARDIAN WHOSE ACTIONS RESOLVE AROUND FISTICUFFS!

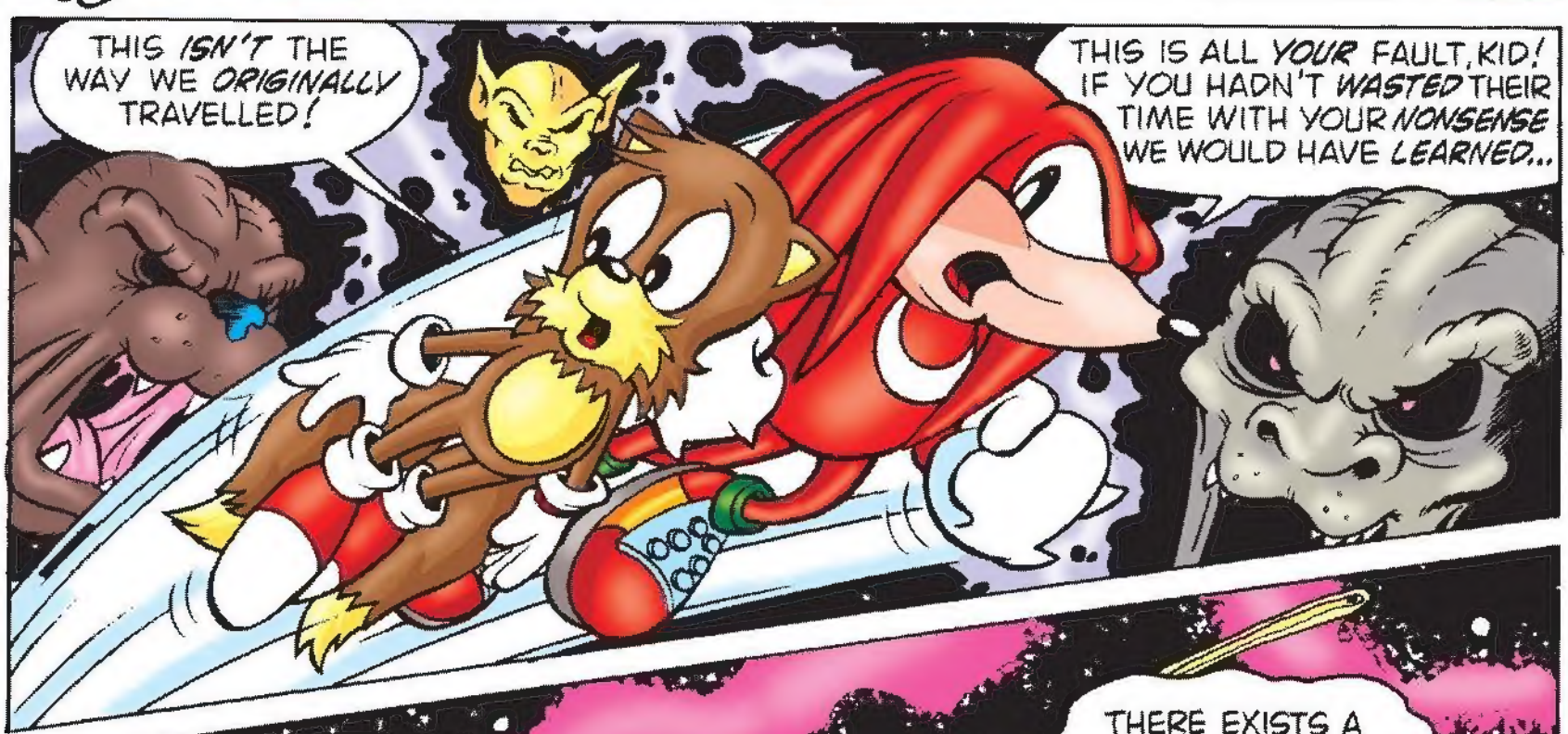

WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE? YOU WERE THE ONLY MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY WHO DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO BECOME OUR HOMELAND'S GUARDIAN!
WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE? WISDOM DECREES THAT IT IS BETTER TO SAFEGUARD A UNIVERSE THAN JUST ONE PEBBLE IN ITS BELLY!

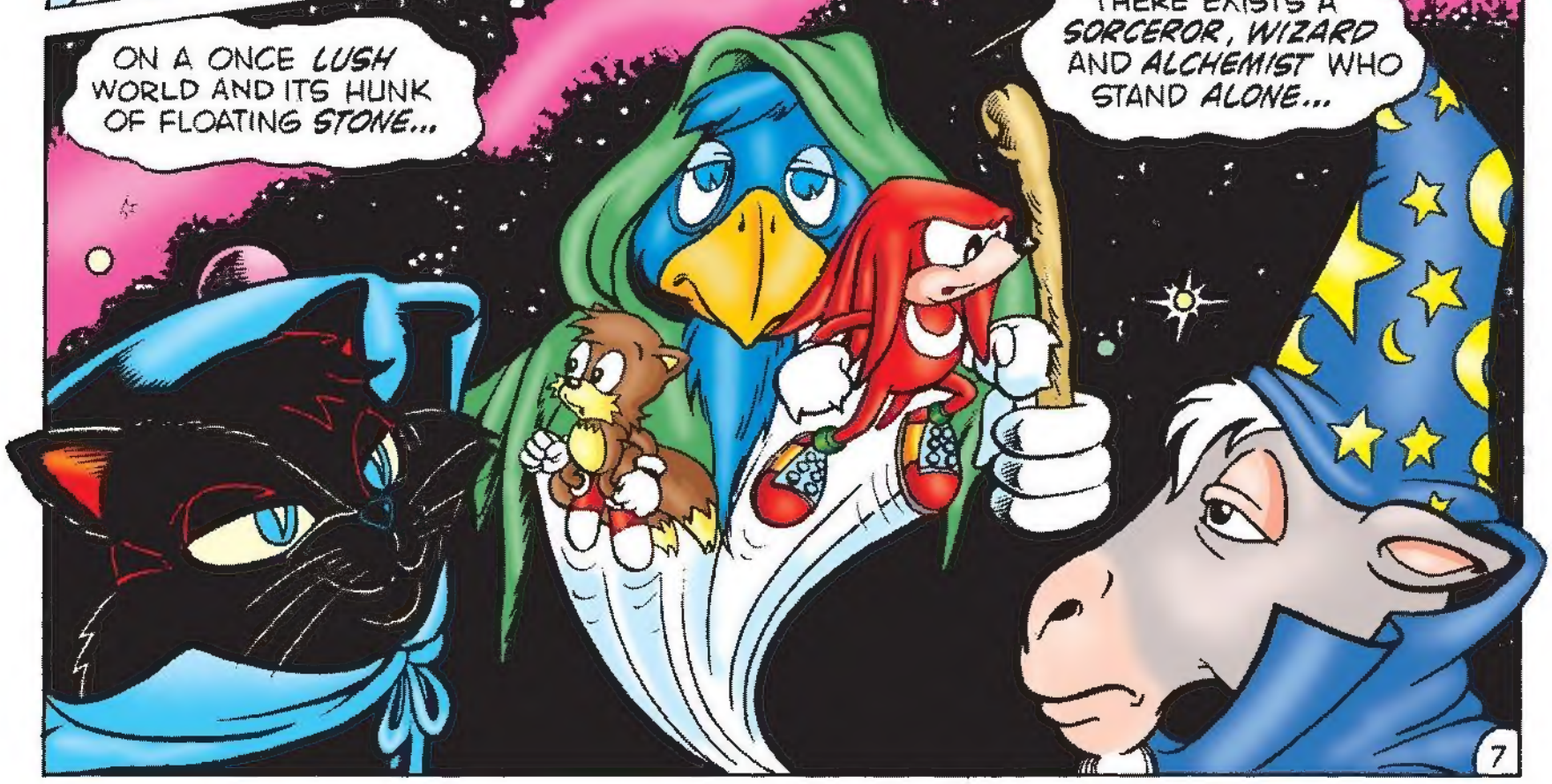

THAT'S JUST MYSTIC PSYCHO BABBLE!
YOU GUYS CERTAINLY HAVE QUITE A HISTORY...!
OUR HISTORY IS A MATTER OF GENETICS, DOUBLE TAIL -- BUT WE HAVE NEVER MET!
LOOK, THE REASON WE CAME HERE...HUH?!
...IS KNOWN ONLY TOO WELL...!
HEY, WHAT'S THIS TRICK? WHY IS IT GETTING SO DARK?
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US?!
YOU ARE TRAVELING TO THE LIMITS OF INFINITY...BUT THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO INFINITY...
...SO YOUR TRAVEL TAKES YOU BACK TO WHERE YOU STARTED... YET YOU HAVE NOT TRAVELED AT ALL...
KER-PLUNK!
HEY, THAT'S NOT YOU TALKING...!

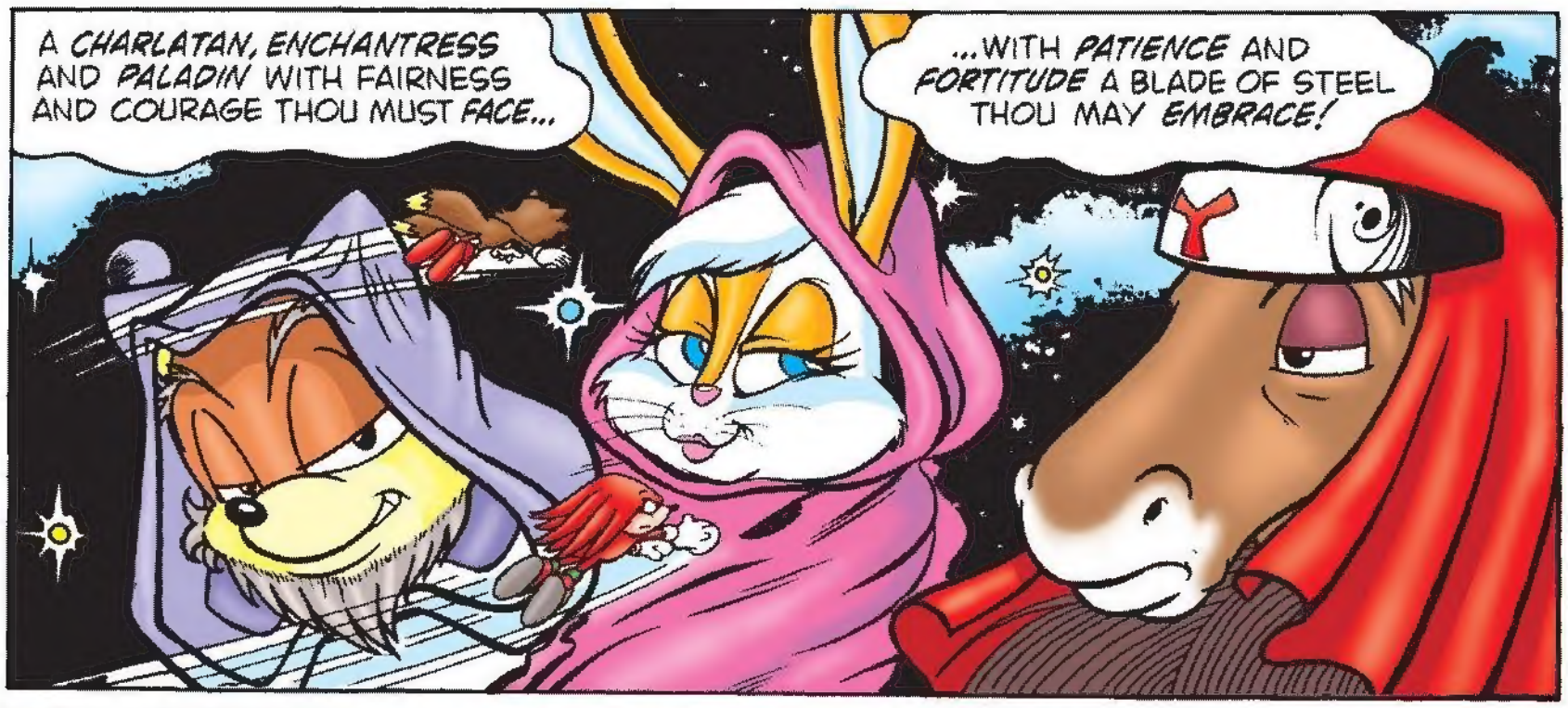
NO, IT WAS THEM...!
...THE ANCIENT WALKERS!!!
UH--HELLO! WE'RE HERE TO SAVE KING ACORN! YOU KNOW HIM, RIGHT? HE'S HOME NOW, BUT HE'S CRACKING UP--UHH--ERR--TURNING TO CRYSTAL! AND WE NEED TO KNOW HOW A CHAOS EMERALD CAN SAVE HIM! SO PLEASE HELP US, OKAY?
JEEZ! AND I ACCUSED ATHAIR OF PSYCHO BABBLE...!!
THROUGH TIME AND SPACE AND ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS...PROPERTIES EXIST BEYOND COMPREHENSION...
ARTIFACTS OF ANCIENT AND UNFATHOMABLE POWER...EXIST TO AID AND MAKE MEN COWER...
COGNIZANT BY BEINGS OF SCIENCE AND MYSTIC SHAMAN... A SOVEREIGN ROYAL AND AN EMERALD HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON!

YOU MEAN A CHAOS EMERALD *WON'T* HELP HIM? *WHY?*
UHH--WE REALLY CAME HERE FOR HELP LOCATING THE *KING'S SWORD!* IT HAS A *MAGICAL* LINK TO HIS...


HEY, IT'S GETTING DARK *AGAIN!*
WAIT, ANCIENT WALKERS! DON'T *SEND* US HOME--I HAVEN'T *FINISHED...!*

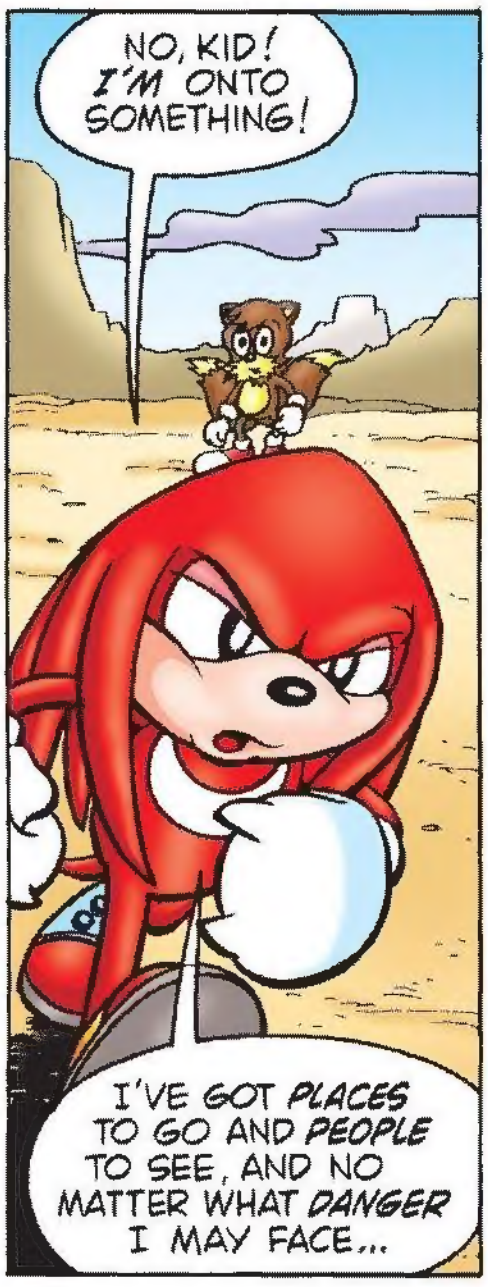

THIS *ISN'T* THE WAY WE *ORIGINALLY* TRAVELLED!
THIS IS ALL *YOUR* FAULT, KID! IF YOU HADN'T *WASTED* THEIR TIME WITH YOUR *NONSENSE* WE WOULD HAVE *LEARNED...*


ON A ONCE *LUSH* WORLD AND ITS HUNK OF FLOATING *STONE...*
THERE EXISTS A *SORCEROR, WIZARD* AND *ALCHEMIST* WHO STAND *ALONE...*


A CHARLATAN, ENCHANTRESS AND PALADIN WITH FAIRNESS AND COURAGE THOU MUST FACE...
...WITH PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE A BLADE OF STEEL THOU MAY EMBRACE!

WE'RE BACK ON DOWNUNDA! AND THOSE LAST IMAGES...
I KNOW! THEY REPRESENT BEINGS OF POWER WHO MAY HAVE A CLUE TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE KING'S SWORD!
WHUMP!

NOW WE'RE FINALLY ONTO SOMETHING!


NO, KID! I'M ONTO SOMETHING!
I'VE GOT PLACES TO GO AND PEOPLE TO SEE, AND NO MATTER WHAT DANGER I MAY FACE...

...FROM HERE ON I GO IT ALONE!!!
SMAK!
KNUCKLES' QUEST WILL CONTINUE SOON! KEEP READING SONIC-GRAMS FOR DETAILS!